

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 1, and continuing to page 4, line 10, as follows:

A release of a radio connection between the radio access network (like UTRAN) and the mobile terminal (like the user equipment unit (UE)) involves the mobile terminal leaving the connected mode and entering the idle mode. In current cellular systems, there are several methods for releasing the connection. In the normal case, the network or user equipment unit (UE) sends a RELEASE message to the other party on the dedicated control channel (DCCH). The other party acknowledges, either indirectly by releasing the channel which can be detected or by transmitting a RELEASE COMPLETE or similar acknowledgement message, and ~~either enters the~~ idle mode, and the initiating party can enter idle mode as well. After the release, the U-RNTI that was allocated by the now-released connection can be reused by another connection.

Please amend the caption appearing on page 9, line 6 as follows:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 18, and continuing to page 12, line 3, as follows:

It is thus presumed in the Fig. 1 scenario that both base stations 28₁₋₁ and 28₁₋₂ currently have radio connections controlled by serving radio network controller (RNC) 26₁, and that drift radio network controller (DRNC) 26₂ currently controls resources involved in radio connections controlled by serving radio network controller (RNC) 26₁. In fact, in the scenario shown in Fig. 1 both base station 28₁₋₁ and base station 28₁₋₂ serve

four illustrated user equipment units (UEs) 30 which are involved in radio connections controlled by serving radio network controller (RNC) 26₁. Moreover, radio network controller (DRNC) 26₂ serves as a drift radio network controller for radio connections involving two user equipment units (UEs) 30, one of the user equipment units (UEs) being served by base station 28₂₋₁ and another of the user equipment units (UEs) being served by base station 28₂₋₂. It will be appreciated that the examples of four user equipment units (UEs) per cell controlled by serving radio network controller (RNC) 26₁, and one user equipment unit (UE) per cell controlled by drift radio network controller (DRNC) 26₂, are simplistic examples employed for ease of illustration. Likely a greater number of radio connections are involved but per cell, but it is also possible that a lesser number of radio connections may be served by a given cell. In any event, radio connections involving all the user equipment units (UEs) shown in Fig. 1 are released upon generation and transmission of the omnibus release message depicted by the broken line in Fig. 1.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 13, and continuing to page 20, line 19, as follows:

~~IN~~In the second mode of the invention, when a connection release message generated by drift radio network controller (DRNC) 26₂ bears in its SRNC-id information element a second predetermined value (or a value in a second reserved range), and bears in its S-RNTI information element the first predetermined value or a value in the first reserved range, it will be recognized as an omnibus release message and will all user equipment units (UEs) in cells controlled by drift radio network controller (DRNC) 26₂.